

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A dried pet food comprising a matrix comprising a protein source, a carbohydrate source, insoluble fiber and the dried pet food having an unstriated appearance and comprising a length of at least 15 mm, a width of at least 13.5 mm, and a thickness of at least 12 mm, the length being greater than the thickness wherein the dried pet food has a density that ranges from about 16.8 lbs/ft³ to about 20 lbs/ft³.

Claim 2 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 1 wherein the protein source comprises denatured protein.

Claim 3 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 1 wherein the carbohydrate source comprises gelatinized carbohydrate.

Claim 4 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 1 wherein the insoluble fiber comprises approximately 2% to about 15% by weight of the matrix.

Claim 5 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 1 wherein the insoluble fiber is a cellulose fiber.

Claim 6 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 1 wherein the product does not include a humectant.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A dried pet food comprising a matrix comprising a protein source, a carbohydrate source, an insoluble fiber and the dried pet food having an unstriated appearance and a density that ranges from about 16.8 lbs/ft³ to about 20 lbs/ft³, wherein the dried pet food comprises a thickness of at least 12 mm and a length that is greater than the thickness.

Claim 8 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 7 wherein the protein source comprises denatured protein.

Claim 9 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 7 wherein the carbohydrate source comprises gelatinized carbohydrate.

Claim 10 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 7 wherein the insoluble fiber comprises approximately 2% to about 15% by weight of the matrix.

Claim 11 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 7 wherein the insoluble fiber is a cellulose fiber.

Claim 12 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 7 wherein the product does not include a humectant.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A dried pet food comprising a matrix comprising a protein source, a carbohydrate source, insoluble fiber, a density that ranges from about 16.8 lbs/ft³ to about 20 lbs/ft³ and the dried pet food comprising a length of at least 15 mm, a width of at least 13.5 mm, and a thickness of at least 12 mm, wherein the length is greater than the thickness.

Claim 14 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 13 wherein the protein source comprises denatured protein.

Claim 15 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 13 wherein the carbohydrate source comprises gelatinized carbohydrate.

Claim 16 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 13 wherein the insoluble fiber comprises approximately 2% to about 15% by weight of the matrix.

Claim 17 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 13 wherein the product does not include a humectant.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A dried pet food comprising at least 25% by weight of a kibble having an unstriated appearance and comprising a matrix having a protein source, carbohydrate source, insoluble fiber, and a density that ranges from about 16.8 lbs/ft³ to about 20 lbs/ft³, wherein the dried pet food comprises a thickness of at least 12 mm and a length that is greater than the thickness.

Claim 19 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 18 wherein the matrix has a length of at least 15 mm, a width of at least 13.5 mm, and a thickness of at least 12 mm.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A method of reducing calculus and plaque build-up on a pet's teeth comprising the steps of feeding a dried pet food to a pet; and chewing by the pet on the dried pet food having an unstriated appearance and comprising a matrix including a protein source, a carbohydrate source, insoluble fiber, and having a density that ranges from about 16.8 lbs/ft³ to about 20 lbs/ft³, wherein the dried pet food comprises a thickness of at least 12 mm and a length that is greater than the thickness.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A pet food comprising at least two different sized kibbles including ~~one size kibble being larger than the other size kibble, and being a first sized kibble and a second sized kibble wherein the first sized kibble is larger in size than the second sized kibble, wherein the first sized kibble and the second sized kibble are present in a ratio of approximately 20 to about 80% to approximately 80 to about 20% by number large to small kibbles,~~ and at least one kibble having an unstriated appearance and a density that ranges from about 16.8 lbs/ft³ to about 20 lb/ft³.

Claim 22 (original): The pet food of Claim 21 wherein at least one of the sized kibbles has a length of at least 15 mm, a width of at least 13.5 mm, and a thickness of at least 12 mm.

Claim 23 (original): The pet food of Claim 21 wherein at least one of the sized kibbles does not include a humectant.

Claim 24 (original): The pet food of Claim 21 wherein the ratio of large to small kibbles is 20 to 50 by number percent.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A method for making a dry pet food comprising the steps of extruding through a non-laminar flow a protein source, carbohydrate source, and an insoluble fiber source to create a dry pet food having an unstriated appearance and having a density that ranges from about 16.8 lbs/ft³ to about 20 lbs/ft³, wherein the dry pet food comprises a thickness of at least 12 mm and a length that is greater than the thickness.

Claim 26 (original): The method of Claim 25 wherein the kibble has a length of at least 15 mm, a width of at least 13.5 mm and a thickness of at least 12 mm.

Claim 27 (original): The method of Claim 25 wherein the insoluble fiber comprises approximately 2% to about 15% by weight of the matrix.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A dried pet food comprising a protein source, a carbohydrate source, an insoluble fiber source and having an inner cellular structure that is created by a non laminar flow extrusion process wherein the dried pet food has a density that ranges from about 16.8 lbs/ft³ to about 20 lbs/ft³, wherein the dried pet food comprises a thickness of at least 12 mm and a length that is greater than the thickness.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The dried pet food of Claim 28 further comprises at least one kibble that has a length of at least 15 mm, a width of at least 13.5 mm, and a thickness of at least 12 mm.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The dried pet food of Claim 28 further comprises at least one kibble that does not include a humectant.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A dried pet food comprising a protein source, a carbohydrate source, an insoluble fiber source and having an inner cellular structure that is characterized by a ~~large~~ number of microscopic air pockets wherein the dried pet food has a density that ranges from about 16.8 lbs/ft³ to about 20 lbs/ft³, wherein the dried pet food comprises a thickness of at least 12 mm and a length that is greater than the thickness.

Claim 32 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 31 wherein the interior includes circular pores.

Claim 33 (original): The dried pet food of Claim 31 wherein the interior has a sponge-like structure.